Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Available knowledge indicates that human milk optimally enhances the physical growth and development, brain development, and well-being of the infant by providing the best possible nutrition, protection against specific infections and allergies, and promoting maternal and infant bonding; and,

Whereas, Breast-feeding is recognized as the preferred method of feeding by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the American Dietetic Association, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the National WIC Association; and,

Whereas, Breast-feeding is identified by the U.S. Surgeon General as a high priority in the year 2010 Healthy People objectives, with a goal of increasing to at least 75 percent the proportion of mothers who breast-feed their infants in the early postpartum period and to at least 50 percent those who continue to breast-feed until the infant is six months of age; and,

Whereas, In South Dakota, a coalition has been formed to promote breast-feeding in the state with representation from the Department of Health, the Cooperative Extension Service, the Indian Tribal Organization WIC Programs, Northern Plains Healthy Start, Early Headstart, La Leche League, Sanford Health-USD Medical Center, Avera McKennan Hospital, Rapid City Regional Hospital, SDSU College of Nursing, Sanford School of Medicine at USD, Sacred Heart Medical Clinic, Avera St. Luke's Hospital in Aberdeen, South Dakota Nutrition Council, practicing physicians, and independent lactation consultants; and,

Whereas, The World Alliance for Breast-feeding Action, in conjunction with the World Health Organization and UNICEF, has proclaimed August 1-7, 2008, as the seventeenth annual World Breast-feeding Week:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 1-7, 2008, as

WORLD BREAST-FEEDING WEEK

in South Dakota, and I urge all citizens to join in supporting "Mother Support: Going for the Gold" for healthier infants and stronger communities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this First Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State